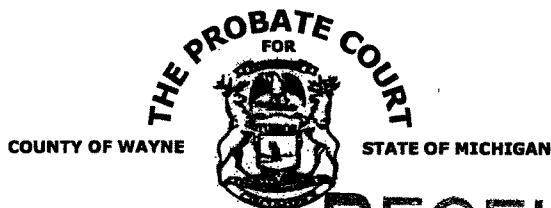


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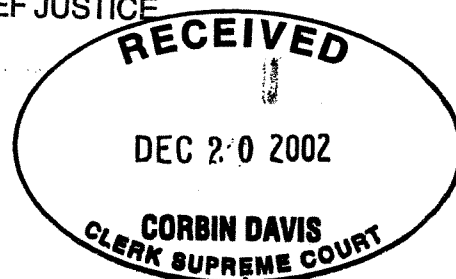
JEANNE S. TAKENAGA
PROBATE REGISTER

RECEIVED
DEC 26 2002

December 20, 2002

Corbin R. Davis, Clerk
Michigan Supreme Court
PO Box 30052
Lansing, MI 48909

OFFICE OF
THE CHIEF JUSTICE



Re: 2002-37

Dear Mr. Davis;

After reviewing the National Center for State Courts (NACM) standards for electronic filing, I recommend that the Michigan Supreme Court adopt these national electronic filing standards. These standards provide a blueprint of how to get from our present paper-based processes to a truly digital environment. These standards will not only enable the public to have more convenient access to the judiciary but will also promote electronic information exchange between courts and other government agencies.

It is important to have a standard so that common e-filing applications can be developed. This is especially critical to some of the larger counties that utilize packaged software to operate their courts. Monroe, Kent, Ingham and Wayne Counties use Maximus for their case management systems and these standards will help enable Maximus develop a common e-filing application that can be used by all of its court clients.

Finally, as we move from paper to digital format, current operating rules and procedures will need to be revisited to make full use of this technology to allow the courts to operate more efficiently. One example is the current requirement that records be microfilmed when a digital copy would serve the same purpose.

We look forward to making e-filing a reality in Wayne County Probate Court and these standards, if adopted, will be a big step in accomplishing that goal.

Sincerely,

Chief Judge Milton L. Mack Jr.

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